The A. F. of L. Weekly News Letter contains a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and such other information as will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

AGITATE ! EDUCATE ! ORGANIZE !

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"CAN'T-STRIKE" ACT MIGHT BE EXTENDED

Washington, Nov. 22.—If any trade unionist believes that the Cummins' anti-strike clause in the railroad bill cannot reach him, that trade unionist will be disillusioned when he reads a statement by Mr. Cummins in the Iowa Legislature session on November 12.

Answering the claim of a newspaper that he had sidetracked his plan to have railroad strikers fined and imprisoned, Senator Cummins declared that he would not only insist on the anti-strike clause in the railroad bill but he intended to urge its extension to America's basic industries. The Iowa Legislature said:

"Not only has there been no hesitation so far as I am concerned with respect to these provisions of the railroad bill, but I intend, when the measure comes before the senate, to propose an extension of the principles of the bill which are now applied only to transportation, to the basic industries of America, to the production of fuel, of iron and steel, to the production of foodstuffs and of lumber and of building materials and of clothing, for I cannot conceive that the people of this country are to be continuously at the mercy of any class or any group and the fundamentals in American life are concerned."

Under the plan proposed by Senator Cummins practically every strike in this country would be a criminal offense and farmers' organizations would be included.

It will be noticed that the senator opposes placing this country at the mercy of any class or group of profiteers, gougers and extortioners who control the supply of fuel, of lumber, and board same for speculative purposes are not referred to.

ESCH RAILROAD BILL WILL PILE UP COSTS

Washington, Nov. 22.—The house has passed the Esch railroad bill, which returns the roads to their private owners, despite efforts by the American Federation of Labor, railroad brotherhoods and farmers' organizations to postpone this action for two years that the public may study the entire question.

That this action by the house means to the people is stated by Congressman Kelly, of Pennsylvania, who has declared that he would not only insist on the anti-strike clause in the railroad bill but he intended to urge its extension to America's basic industries. The Iowa Legislature said:

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MOTHERS' PENSION LAWS.

Washington, Nov. 22.—Remarkable progress has been made in mothers' pension legislation, according to a bulletin issued by the United States children's bureau. The first legislation of this kind was passed by Missouri and Illinois. At the present time 39 states, Alaska and Hawaii have some public provision for mothers left with young children to support and in at least one of the remaining states this principle is being considered. This rapid spread of legislation in so brief a time is indicative, says the bulletin, of the wide spread and deep seated conviction that a child should be deprived of home life is not a mother's care because of poverty alone.

Some states provide pensions only for widowed mothers; others include women who have been divorced or who may have been deserted by their husbands; or those whose husbands are in prison, in state asylums or who are otherwise incapacitated. In three states expectant mothers are included and in a number of states only the mothers of children born out of wedlock come within the scope of the law.

ABUSE IS NOT ARGUMENT.

Sydney, New South Wales, Australia, Nov. 22.—Because the Australian Workers' Union, the big union the editor is charged with "being afraid of his job."

This time-worn statement is answered step by step editorially:

"If what I have said of. o. b. u. methods is right then even if I did say it to me my job ought not to affect the validity of the criticism in the slightest degree.

"The question is the truth or falsity of my statements, not the motive I had in making these statements.

"It's a low-down thing to say. It has no argumentative value; it is probably not intended to have any, but is meant to be an insult.

"However, I don't regard it as such. It is not sufficiently important for that. I prefer to consider it as an unconscious admission of an inward and incurable vulgarity.

"The only rejoiner I need make is that had I known my more or less course for my job than they have done for twelve months previously they'd have it long go, and the labor movement would have been greatly enriched by my involuntary absence."

COMPENSATION LAW UPHELD.

Bismarck, N. Dak., Nov. 22.—The state supreme court has upheld the workmen's compensation law, passed by the last legislature. The law was framed by a real estate firm, which objected to contributing to the state fund on the ground that the work in its employ was not dangerous. On this point the court said:

"Common observation as well as ordinary reasoning readily discloses that every clerk or stenographer in the modern office in the course of his occupation incurs risks nearly different than those applicable to similar situations in the comparatively simple occupations that existed when the common law principles governing the fixing of negligence arose and were applicable."

FILIPINOS WAKE UP.

Washington, Nov. 22.—Members of the Philippine commission, of independence, elected by a popular vote of those islands, and now in this country in the interests of independence have woke up. They say:

"The Filipino people are interested in a blunder in assuming throughout all this time that America knows all about the Philippines and is charged with the ideals of the Filipinos, and would not be deceived by the believers of the islands and their people. It is only lately that we have discovered that the campaign of misrepresentation has been taking root. The root-idea is a very simple one. We are for the righteous claims of our nationalism; we fling apathy to the left of us, apathy to the right of us, apathy in front of us."

ABSOLUTISM NOT DEAD.

San Francisco, Nov. 22.—"The labor group," says the Seamen's Journal, "walked out of the national industrial conference because the spirit of absolutism that died with Louis XIV has been resurrected in the capitalist cabinets in Gary and the other feudary lords of the United States who profess to believe that they are the industry of America and that those employed therein are mere serfs."

ADJUST DISPUTE.

Worcester, Mass., Nov. 22.—A dispute between the Worcester Producers company and its employes has been adjusted. These workers are affiliated with the United Brewery, Flour, Cereal and Soft Drink Workers.

MAN IS NOT RATIONAL SAYS U. S. OFFICIAL

Washington, Nov. 22.—The claim that man is rational is rejected by Dr. Royal Meeker, commissioner United States bureau of labor statistics, who declares that if man was rational there would be no necessity for the United States children's bureau or for Miss Julia Lathrop, its chief.

In a recent address, just made public, the commissioner said:

"Some men have been so bold and so foolish as to say that I am not only rational animal. I have never found evidence submitted to me sufficient to make me subscribe to that theory. For the most part and most of the time his actions are determined by the instincts of love, hate, fear, loyalty, and similar motives, that are the very reverse of rational. If man would only behave in a rational manner, Miss Lathrop and the children's bureau would be absolutely unnecessary. We would not have any use for them, because children would be cared for as a matter of course, so as to give them the full opportunity for development. Enlightened self-interest would take care of that. They would be reared in order to make them, if you please, the most efficient producers and attain the fullest possible development. There would not be any conflict between the two statements. It would be simply two different ways of saying the same thing. But man is anything but a rational animal. He is only momentarily and only occasionally rational. It is an axiom that adults are simply children of a larger growth."

COAL OWNER OBJECTS.

New York, Nov. 22.—Strong protests against Governor Frazier of North Dakota are made by Col. Percival Washburn of the Washburn Lignite company because the northwestern governor has seized the company's coal mines in that state.

Governor Frazier called a meeting of the coal owners and miners and proposed that wages be advanced 60 per cent, with the understanding that negotiations between the owners and miners, now on at Washington, is concluded. The operators refused and the governor had the militia seize the mines on the ground that the coal in question did not intend to freeze.

Col. Washburn puts the case on the other foot and Vice President Washburn, comfortably situated in his New York office declares that the governor's action is an unprecedented seizure of private property and a radical attempt to socialize private industry for the benefit of the state.

Bismarck, N. Dak., Nov. 22.—The Washburn Lignite company has secured an order against officers of the state, including Governor Frazier, to show to the district court why they should not be restrained from using the company's coal mine at Mitton, this state. The property was seized by Governor Frazier to assure the people fuel.

COLLEGE STRIKEBREAKERS

Philadelphia, Nov. 22.—The University of Pennsylvania has qualified for especially large endowments from private individuals by its refusal to dismiss a plan to enroll students in a strikebreaking army, to be used when ever needed.

Dean Johnson of the Wharton school, an athlete of the old school, said the pledge "that certain of the students have placed before their fellows for signatures seems to me my heartiest approval.

"It was a patriotic impulse," he declared, "that led to the formation of this pledge and should be made by every boy generally sign it, as I believe they will, we should have another evidence of their devotion to their country."

He stated that addresses will be made to all classes in the university explaining this strikebreaking stunt and the patriotism of the students will be appealed to that they will enlist in the service of defense.

This movement is in line with the refusal several years ago, of officers of the Wharton school to permit President Gompers to address the students on trade unionism after a group of them forwarded an invitation to the A. F. of L. executive.

KANSAS SEIZES MINES.

Topeka, Kan., Nov. 22.—Coal mines of this state are in the hands of receivers appointed by the state supreme court as applicant of the state attorney general. Under the receiver's order the receivers will operate the mines and will have full power of production, sale and distribution.

Governor Allen will make a personal appeal to the United Mine Workers of America to produce coal for their followers. The miners have declared they will not accept the offer to give the miners a voice in the management of the mines.

"That's about all we would have—a voice," said one delegate.

The parliamentary committee of the congress and President Smillie of the British Miners' Federation, presented the views of the congress to Lloyd George, who now reaffirms his previous decision.

For years British trade unionists have declared for coal nationalization. This was not vitalized until the government recently established a coal industry commission, which investigated the entire problem of coal production, Justice Sankey, chairman of the commission of this board, which included President Smillie and Secretary Hodges of the British Miners' Federation, presented laborites and an equal number of coal owners.

The commission's hearings were sensational. The amazing profits the coal owners have made, it was also developed that many dukes and lords, who draw large incomes through coal royalties, can show no title to these lands, some because the dukes and lords could not give the commission the faintest idea of how they came into the title to the possession of their families.

The commission is divided in its report. The coal owners favored state control under private ownership while Robert Smillie, miners' leader, called for nationalization. The latter two labor members, however, divided on the question of compensation, the miners opposing the right of the coal owners to receive compensation for their titles are in doubt. Justice Sankey's recommendation in all cases of ownership, and takes his stand on the English law that "possession is nine points."

BUY FOOD FROM CO-OPS.

Chicago, Nov. 22.—Commissaries maintained in this vicinity by the steel strike committee will be replaced by local co-operative movement. The coöperative plan, which is backed by these necessaries are delivered to the strikers' families, City and other strike zones in this locality. The trade unions are pouring in their contributions, the latest one a special appeal issued by the American Federation of Labor. The appeal is entitled "digging in" for a protracted seige, if necessary."

At a recent meeting of the Chicago federation of labor, President Fitzpatrick, who is chairman of the national steel strike committee, said that these commissaries have been opened "to supply the needy ones with the substantial food and of a better quality than they were able to buy from the company stores, and to prevent profiteering."

"It is up to the labor movement," he said, "to see that the needs of the strike against Garyism and industrial autocracy. The strikers are standing shoulder to shoulder and have pledged upon to see their wives and little children suffer from the necessaries of life when they are fighting labor's battle for justice."

CHILD LABOR LESSENED.

Washington, Nov. 22.—Child labor in this country has decreased more than 10 per cent, the child labor tax provision of the revenue act having gone into effect April 25 last, according to federal reports received today.

This act levies a tax of 10 per cent on the profits of plants employing children under 14 years of age or between 14 and 16 for more than eight hours daily, or between 6 p. m. and 7 a. m. in establishments engaged in interstate commerce.

Eight states, however, in which was declared unconstitutional by the United States supreme court, made it prohibitive to employ children under these ages. The opponents of child labor had in the meanwhile secured unconstitutional by a North Carolina federal court, which case is now pending before the United States supreme court.

It is stated that some cotton mill owners in the south are obeying the law would frankly say that they expect the supreme court to declare congress has the right to levy such a tax.

PACKERS ENJOIN POLICE.

Jersey City, N. J., Nov. 22.—To maintain order in the vicinity of the Armour and Swift packing plants, where strikers are on strike, city officials prohibited the importation of strikebreakers. Armour and Swift officials secured from interference with these plants by obtaining injunctions. Strikebreakers were furnished by a New York agency and the injunction was issued by Chancellor Walker, of Paterson, this state.

The packers are demanding $45 a week with the Saturday work day to end at 5 o'clock in the evening instead of 6 o'clock, as they have been receiving from $35 to $38 a week.

WORKERS CONTRACT SOLDS.

Chicago, Nov. 22.—Dangerous colds and rheumatism are contracted by caisson diggers, who are on strike to secure higher wages and better working conditions. These employes labor in the open air, while the building of piers and docks. They stand in wooden compartments that are filled with water, and the pump which permits the seeping of water may stop at any time, subjecting these conditions and when the men come out of the compartments they have to go to their clothes and dress and before they reach their homes they are usually chilled, and often their clothing is frozen to their bodies.

STRIKING CLERKS WIN.

New York, Nov. 22.—Several hundred clerks employed in delicatessen stores have reduced the work week to 57 hours and raised wages $5 a week.

STRIKE FOR WOMEN.

San Francisco, Nov. 22.—Upholstering shops are refusing to pay the new wage rate to women members of the Upholsterers' union, until the result that the men employes have refused to work.

BRITISH MINE ISSUE IN POLITICAL ARENA

London, England, Nov. 22.—The government has declined to favor the nationalization of British coal mines and this question is rapidly becoming a leading political issue.

Last August Premier Lloyd George announced his opposition to nationalization and favored state control under private ownership with the miners given a voice in the management. At the annual meeting of the British Trades Union Congress, last September Lloyd George's plan was rejected by the emphatic vote of 17,000 to 77,000. The unionists were not impressed with the offer to give the miners a voice in the management of the mines.

"That's about all we would have—a voice," said one delegate.

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"STEEL STRIKE OVER," CRIES FRANTIC PRESS

Pittsburg, Pa., Nov. 22.—Antagonism of the public press against the steel strike has taken a new form and the old message of "bolshevism" and "revolution" has been abandoned to a large extent, as this deluge of abuse and slander has not affected the strikers.

This has compelled new tactics by the workers' enemies and now these newspapers are hammering away on the theory that the strike is over and the men are returning to work. The following headlines from the "red scare" and the red head lines about "revolution" are placed in cold storage for future use.

The steel strike committee is alert to the new move and has issued this warning to strike localities:

"The papers are full of this defeatist stuff and the Sunday papers published large batches of it, trying to create belief that the men are going to swarm back to work Monday morning. These items are issued for the undermining effect on the strikers, which the meetings and strike bulletins largely overcome, to be sure; but we can do more to offset this method used by employers if you will cooperate through the newspapers. It is 'enemy' propaganda, issued with every facility to make it effective.

"It is necessary for us to keep in close touch with the situation for more the truth gets to the people daily. We are now issuing a bulletin by 'headline service.' We will send every day by letter or telegram a bulletin of the day's news. Post it up in a room on your bulletin board. It is suggested and that you have in your locality all persons who can translate these 'headlines' into several languages so that they can be posted in several languages."

CONTEMPT FOR BLACKLEGS.

New York, Nov. 22.—Contempt for blacklegs and their employers in the strike-breakers—was expressed by the Countess of Yarmouth, who asked to contribute to a fund to reward a group of this ilk; according to the American newspapers generally the countess "is one of the society page stories, but in this instance the outburst of the countess revealed a real woman."

The titled woman has a residence a short distance from London and that community raised a fund for the employes who were "loyal" during the recent railroad strike. The countess was asked to contribute and she sent this response:

"Lady Warwick is amazed at the communication sent her which she returns herewith. It is incredible that any thoughtful person should commend disloyalty to a union for any reason whatever.

"The railwaymen who stood solidly by the benefit of the country, as evidenced by their fellows, as they did the contracts of sung and safe berths during the war to which they fought for them.

"Lady Warwick will have nothing to do with blacklegs."

BARS DOWN TO WOMEN.

Washington, Nov. 22.—The United States civil service commission announces that hereafter women will be permitted to sit examinations for several positions held by it. In the first six months of this year 60 per cent of the examinations conducted by the commission's jurisdiction barred women.

It is now stated that hereafter when announcements of examinations are made, the following statement is added:

"Both men and women, if qualified, may enter this examination, but appointing officers have the legal right to specify the sex desired in requesting certification of eligibles.

"Whenever the appointing officer indicates, however, that either men or women, or only men and military preference men, will be appointed, then a statement to that effect shall be added to the above in the announcement."

TEACHERS NEED $1,812.

Boston, Nov. 22.—A school teacher needs a salary of $1,812 a year to maintain a minimum standard of efficiency in her work, and provide for old age, according to a report of a committee appointed by the massachusetts teachers' federation to study the cost of living.

It was shown by figures that a teacher who had been paid $1,000 a year in 1897 needed a salary of $1,812 this year in order to secure an equivalent share of the comforts of life. Since 1917, the advance in the cost of living has been at unprecedented heights, making the estimated $1,812 a conservative figure.

The chairman of the committee declared that at the present time many teachers are receiving only a salary of only $560. He said that up to a comparatively recent period one Massachusetts city was paying young teachers $13 a week—a practice which was not stopped until the state board of education called attention to its illegality."

MILLS NOT RUNNING.

Washington, Nov. 22.—Striking steel workers at Johnstown, Pa., deny newspaper statements that the Cambria mills in that city have resumed operations.

Early this week it was stated that "500 strikers have returned to work and the mills are running normally."

This is denied by the workers who say that it is true they have applied, show that the mills have been badly managed. Heretofore it has been necessary to employ from 5,000 to 17,000 to operate the plants.

STREET CAR MEN GAIN.

Nashville, Tenn., Nov. 22.—Street car men employed by the local traction company have secured a substantial increase in their wages to 42 and 48 cents, according to length of service.

Erie, Pa., Nov. 22.—Street car men did not get a raise in wages following proceedings to raise wages. They were receiving 38 cents an hour and asked 75 cents. The arbitrators advanced them 5 cents an hour.

ARENT WARS ENDED?

New York, Nov. 22.—"If we want to war tomorrow with a first-class power we would have to beg, implorate abroad, because we neither have them, nor can we produce them quickly enough," said Gen. Mitchell, chief of staffs in the air service in a speech in this city.

The speaker insisted that it was necessary for congress to create an air department that aviation could be developed in this country.

"OPEN SHOP" FALLACY REVEALED BY SENATE

Washington, Nov. 22.—The United States senate has recorded its friendship for the so-called "open shop" by declaring that no union of government employes shall affiliate with an organization that strikes.

The declaration was injected, however, when the appropriation bill to which it was attached went to conference between representatives of the two houses of congress. The anti-union clause was not in the house appropriation bill and the conferees have the right under the law to eliminate this attack on the rights of government employes.

The senate's action reveals the fallacy and hypocrisy of so-called "open shop" advocates and it endorses every charge of trade unionists that the so-called "open shop" is a subterfuge and a trick phrase to fool the employer's lockout of organized workers.

The measure would affect every trade union in the country working for the government and it would annihilate the union of postal clerks, federal employes, railway mail clerks, letter carriers and other organizations of federal employes. Mr. Myers, one of the senate's lunatic fringe, would call this "law and order"—an after war "Americanism" that ignores profiteers and dollar patriots, but would attempt by enactment to make strikes in America's basic industries illegal.

In the house—The Esch bill has passed. The later clauses provide for the establishment of voluntary mediation boards similar to those now existing under the railroad administration.

This act declares it shall be the duty of railroad managers and workers to exert every reasonable effort and adopt every available and reasonable means to avoid interruptions to the normal service because of disputes over wages, hours or working conditions.

It is further provided that "any person, corporation, organization or association violating any of the provisions of sections 300 and 301 (the labor provisions) of this act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and for each offense, on conviction, shall pay to the United States a penalty of $1,000."

Under these provisions it would appear that it would be within the power of the board to contract strikes to a more or less extent than advocated by the senate committee on interstate commerce.

Friends of this legislation claim it is the only method intended to force railroads to comply with the awards of its mediation boards, but opponents of this legislation declare that the bill is a return to the railroads in a case involving large sums of money than the courts would have the right to pass upon strikes.

WAR COST STAGGERS.

New York, Nov. 22.—In a pamphlet entitled "Direct and Indirect Costs of the War," published by the Carnegie endowment for international peace, it is stated that the direct costs for all countries actually involved in the war will be around $180,000,000,000 and the indirect costs $70,617,547,566.

The capitalized value of soldier life is placed at $30,000 each and the direct costs, is placed at $23,272,280.

The report, which was prepared by Ernest L. Bogart, professor of economics in the University of Illinois, declares that the "capitalized value of human life," fixes the worth of the individual in the United States at $5,639 in Bulgaria, Turkey, Greece, Japan, Roumania, Serbia and several other countries at $4,778 per head. In United States, where the economic work of the individual to the nation is placed at the highest.

The number of known dead is placed at 9,996,000, and the number supposed to be dead at 2,761,800. To the losses mentioned is added the "property loss" "those resulting from disease, pestilence, famine, physical exhaustion and similar causes."

PRINTERS RAISE WAGES.

Sacramento, Cal., Nov. 22.—Newspaper printers in this city have signed a new scale of wages to run for two years, which provides for a $5 increase for three years, when the $3 raise will be paid. The state labor board called attention to the high cost of living and the hazardous work of these employes.

IRON MOLDERS STRIKE.

Albion, Mich., Nov. 22.—Organized iron molders employed by the Albion Manufacturing company have suspended work to enforce a 10 per cent increase in wages and a 44 hour week.

The company has refused, but it is stated that all of its forces will not receive $9 for a few hours' work while others labor from sun up to sun down for $6 and $7 a day. The unionists quit work when the company refused to discuss these grievances.

ARMY TO BE 300,000.

Washington, Nov. 22.—The military committee of the house has decided upon a strength of 300,000 officers and men as sufficient in these days when war is a thing of the past. The administration wanted an army of 500,000.

Under the new plan there will be a standing army of 300,000 and with auxiliary and staff corps with a strength of 50,000 officers and men.

ELECTRICIANS STRIKE.

South Bend, Ind., Nov. 22.—Organized electrical workers are on strike to enforce a wage demand of 81½ cents an hour. They have been receiving 75 cents.

WANT $1.25 AN HOUR.

Bloomington, Ill., Nov. 22.—The Bricklayers' union has asked that wages be increased from $1 an hour to $1.25, starting January 1.

AUTO MECHANICS UNITE.

Kansas City, Mo., Nov. 21.—Automobile mechanics have organized a union of 200 members.

"Murder and Rioting Is Demanded; Northwest Business Men Talk Wild

Washington, Nov. 22.—Murder and rioting is publicly advocated by a group of business men in the state of Washington, according to the telegram to President Gompers from Wm. Short, president of the Washington federation of labor:

Short sent the following telegram to Attorney General Palmer:

"The following quotation is from full page advertisement appearing in the Tacoma Ledger today and the Seattle Star tonight, same date. It is an editorial published in Business Chronicle at Seattle, an official organ of a group of employers and is marked paid for by Edwin Selvin, editor Business Chronicle:

"We must smash every unAmerican and anti-American organization in the land. We must put to death the leaders of this gigantic conspiracy of murder, billage and revolution. We must imprison for life all its aiders and abetters of native birth. We must deport all aliens. The non-partisan league, the so-called triple alliance in the state of Washington, the Germman socialists, the closed shop unions, the agitators, the I. W. W. anarchists, syndicalist, revolutionists, traitors, the whole motley crew of bolsheviste and near-bolsheviste must be outlawed by public opinion and hunted down and hounded until driven beyond the horizon of civic decency. The administration at Washington has made a mess alike of the affairs of the world and the affairs of the American people. It is simple truth to state that the federal government in the hands of the present administration is responsible in greater degree than any other single agency for the present chaotic and menacing condition."

President Short continues:

"The article refers to the A. E. of L. as a group of employers of labor. The triple alliance is a political union of the farmers, the railway unions and the state federation of labor, organized on a strictly non-partisan basis and includes many prominent democrats.

"The article is replete with a denunciation of the national administration of President Wilson, whom are held primarily responsible for organized labor.

"It insists on the leaders of labor being murdered and the movement forcibly exterminated. The article is inciting and calculated to arouse the rankest form and menaces the immediate peace of this community."

STATUS OF RAIL BILLS PENDING IN CONGRESS

Washington, Nov. 22.—Legislation intended to turn the railroads back to their owners, passed by the house, is acted upon until the regular session of congress, which convenes in December. The status of this legislation is as follows:

The Esch-Cummins bill—The interstate commerce committee has made a favorable report on Cummins' amendment which makes strikes of railroad employes a criminal offense. Senator Cummins has announced he will not press the amendment to make strikes in America's basic industries illegal.

In the house—The Esch bill has passed. The later clauses provide for the establishment of voluntary mediation boards similar to those now existing under the railroad administration.

This act declares it shall be the duty of railroad managers and workers to exert every reasonable effort and adopt every available and reasonable means to avoid interruptions to the normal service because of disputes over wages, hours or working conditions.

It is further provided that "any person, corporation, organization or association violating any of the provisions of sections 300 and 301 (the labor provisions) of this act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and for each offense, on conviction, shall pay to the United States a penalty of $1,000."

Under these provisions it would appear that it would be within the power of the board to contract strikes to a more or less extent than advocated by the senate committee on interstate commerce.

Friends of this legislation claim it is the only method intended to force railroads to comply with the awards of its mediation boards, but opponents of this legislation declare that the bill is a return to the railroads in a case involving large sums of money than the courts would have the right to pass upon strikes.

MINERS ARE BITTER; BEING VICTIMIZED

Washington, Nov. 22.—Bitterness on the part of the miners marked the conference session of the joint conference between them and the coal owners, following the cancellation of the agreement with the United States fuel junction judge. The miners hailed with shouts of joy both the government and the coal owners. The latter were charged with victimizing miners who refused to work, and the government was charged with forgetting its claim that it would treat both sides alike.

Acting President Lewis of the mine workers read a telegram from Birmingham, Ala., miners which said:

"Local unions have been converted action among the mine operators here to ensure the returning to work under their court order if we give up their buttons and renounces their union membership."

Acting President Lewis said that the telegram was typical of the company (Rockefeller's concern) is adopting the same policy."

The miners' officials declared that "in certain coal fields throughout the country violations of the provisions of sections 300 and 301 (the labor provisions) of this act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and for each offense, on conviction, shall pay to the United States a penalty of $1,000."

Under these provisions it would appear that it would be within the power of the board to contract strikes to a more or less extent than advocated by the senate committee on interstate commerce.

"This would indicate that the attempt to force the coal miners to work under their court order is liable to a test," asked Lewis.

Attorney John P. Wilson, who acted as chairman of the meeting, said that the department of justice was attacking the claim of the miners being unfairly.

WHERE IS SCHWAB NOW?

Cincinnati, Nov. 22.—An S. O. S. has been sent out from the board of directors of the Bethlehem steel corporation to the management of the Cornel and Soft Drink Workers' Journal.

The editor calls attention to the statement contained in the report during the war:

"An economic change has taken place in American ideals. I doubt whether in the past labor has gotten its just share. I believe that it will when this must be rectified. This great war has taught us that we have conceded things to labor. Autocracy is dead, and democracy is to lead. This is the day of democracy, of the rights of laborations and adjustment and recognition.

To these fine sentiments, the labor editor adds:

"Where is Schwab now? If he was sincere in his uttering, why doesn't he come forward and put his words into action? If he believes in democracy he has the opportunity of the day of democracy is here, he is in combination, the Moses that should come forward and lead them and his associates out of the wilderness and into the land of justice and righteousness."

MINIMUM PAY $1,320.

Washington, Nov. 22.—A minimum entrance salary of $1,320 for government employes has been recommended to the joint congressional committee on reclassification of salaries by its advisory committee on wage policy. The joint committee is created by congress. The advisory committee has been engaged for months in the classification of the various grades of clerks, messengers and laborers in the federal service.

The report, which was prepared by Dr. Royal Meeker, commissioner of the United States bureau of labor statistics, is a moderate minimum.

The report says the report, "shall be made in such a manner as to provide a reasonable increase of pay within a normal period of about six years, and that every student knows the necessity of reducing the period to six years."

It shows that the minimum of $1,320 and the $2,220 rate after six years' service, represent a 67 per cent and $1,220 on the basis of the value of the dollar before the war.

MR. COOLIDGE'S VIEWS.

Boston, Nov. 22.—The re-election of Governor Coolidge has called public attention to be attracted to the utterances of the governor during the police strike.

For satisfaction with present conditions" is the sweet assurance of the governor, then and enduring. For disturbance with present conditions" is the cry of the agitator, the demagogue, those who wish to advance the cause of public enemies."

UNIONIZE STOVE SHOP.

Albany, N. Y., Nov. 22.—The Bainbone, Sard company has unionized its stove mounting department and has entered into an agreement with the Molders' International Union of America and conference board, known as the Albany, Ill., plant of this company which has an agreement with the Stove Mounters' International union.

WHAT LAW? A JUDGE'S?

New York, Nov. 22.—The Review, "a weekly journal of political and general discussion," says:

"The nine workers' leaders have submitted to the law with a promptness and at the same time dignity that are the more impressive because of the fact that they have received no declaration of support for the refusal to obey the law of the land."

WOMEN CLERKS PICKET.

Lynn, Mass., Nov. 22.—Women retail clerks are among the pickets in the striking garment clerks, who are demanding better working conditions. Large department stores are involved.